

(*Papilionidæ*) first came under notice, three species of which are worthy of the attention of those who possess orangeries, seeing that they support themselves in the caterpillar stage upon the foliage of the orange tree. All the species of this family, however, must not be regarded as pests, since some forms have a partiality for the mistletoe, whilst others feed upon the native cherry, caper tree, &c. Amongst the "whites" the Imperial (*Delias harpalyce*) had a chief place, full details being given of its habits and powers of flight. In the second family, the wonderful migratory powers of the Wanderer (*Danaus erippus*) from its native haunts in South America to our own shores were fully described. The advance guard, travelling eastwards from America, reached England in 1876, whilst ten years later captures were made in Spain and Portugal. The westward march, by way of the islands in the Pacific, can be clearly traced, Queensland being reached in 1890, and Melbourne two years later. It can with a fair amount of confidence be predicted that the pioneers of these eastern and western contingents will, ere long, meet each other face to face, and then will come the tug of war. The history of the march of this form is particularly interesting to the student of the distribution of animal life over the surface of the globe, showing the ways and means by which a local form may become cosmopolitan within a comparatively short space of time. Those lively little brown butterflies, so familiar to those who have paid a visit to the ranges near Melbourne, were accorded an enthusiastic notice, one genus (*Xenica*) being strictly Australian. Perhaps the most striking feature about the paper was its very full descriptions of the life-history of many forms previously undescribed. To the young naturalist the collection of specimens undoubtedly gives a great deal of pleasure, but the authors clearly proved that the chief place of value must be given to the study of the life-history of these forms. For in some cases, as cited above, these interesting and beautiful forms prove themselves veritable pests; a knowledge, therefore, of their food plants, would often locate them in one or other stage of their existence, and so enable, if necessary, measures to be taken for their destruction. No less than 31 species were mentioned, and every one of them was fully illustrated by means of a series of coloured lantern slides prepared by Mr. Anderson and exhibited by Mr. J. Searle.

EXHIBITION OF SPECIMENS.

The meeting closed with the usual exhibition of specimens, of which the following is a list:—By Messrs. E. Anderson and F. Spry.—Specimens of *P. kershawi* with dark spots, also typical form; *X. achanta*, with abnormal ocellus on right anterior wing; *X. kluggii*, female type, also var. *gemini*; also "Victorian Butterflies," vol. i. (by Messrs. Anderson and Spry). By Mr.